

La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council  
**Strategic Planning for SFY 2012**

Taskforce Priorities	2011 Strategies	Data to Support	Scope/Breadth/Capacity
<b>Supports and Services for Families</b> Convene partners, provide leadership, provide funding and advocate for development, enhancement and sustainability of a variety of high quality, culturally responsive, and affordable services, supports, and community resources for young children and their families.	Home Visitation  Court Team for Maltreated Infants and Toddlers	Statewide funding cuts to the Division of Children, Youth and Families has led to reduced staffing, reduction in preventative and family support services, and decreases in the amount of in-home services provided in the region, particularly for the most vulnerable families, which is noted with concern by both parents and key informants involved in the child welfare system.  Training for parents is identified as a big need by key informants, as is a lack of awareness among parents of the importance of early childhood and the effects that neglect and other types of abuse have in children's future lives.	<b>Home Visitation</b> Service Number: 379 Families Approximately 4,490 families in the region have a child under age 6.  <b>Court Team for Maltreated Infants and Toddlers</b> Service Number: 160 Children 152 Children in the region were removed from their homes in 2009.  <b>TOTAL: \$1,704,618 (40%)</b>
<b>Quality, Access and Affordability</b> Convene partners, provide leadership, and provide funding for increased availability of and access to high quality, regulated, culturally responsive, and affordable early care and education programs.	Pre-Kindergarten Expansion  Planning, Access and Quality Improvement Grants  Quality First	Decrease in preschool programs in the region simultaneous to increase in children under 6.  There is capacity for only about one in four children under age 6 in the 95 licensed or certified childcare providers in the region, and there has been a sharp decrease (81%) in the number of children from low-income families supported by the Early Childhood Block Grant program.  Affordable child care and more preschool slots for typical children are common sentiments voiced by many parents throughout all communities.  Both parents and key informants note questionable quality of the few places available.	<b>Pre-Kindergarten Expansion</b> Service Number: 100 Children There are approximately 4,694 children ages three and four in the region. Of these, an estimated 24% (1,127) live in poverty.  <b>Planning, Access and Quality Improvement Grants</b> Service Number: 26 Centers  <b>Quality First</b> Service Number: 18 Centers (95 regulated providers in region)  <b>TOTAL: \$1,202,275 (28%)</b>

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<b>Access to Quality Health Care</b> Collaborate with partners to increase access to high quality health care services (including oral health and mental health) and affordable health care coverage for young children and their families.	Preventive Health Outreach and Screening  Child Care Health Consultation  Infant and Toddler Mental Health Professional Tuition Reimbursement	<p>All but one of the 10 Primary Care Areas in the region (Lake Havasu City) are designated as Medically Underserved.</p> <p>Infant mortality rate is much higher than rates in other sparsely populated areas of Arizona, and are over one and a half to twice the Healthy People 2010 target of 4.5 infants per 1,000 live births. 15% of children in the area lack health insurance. Even in larger communities in the region, pediatric care coverage is sparse. Scarcity of providers often noted by families and key informants, including a lack of pediatric medical and developmental specialists, including mental health providers. Families in the region often travel quite some distance to receive care for their children.</p> <p>Data suggest very young children may not be being screened and evaluated for services consistent with the likely rate of developmental delay in the area. When delay is diagnosed, parents and other key informants in the region identify a lack of available therapeutic services for children with special health care needs, an absence of providers, especially specialists, the need to travel long distances to obtain services, and the untenable cost of services.</p>	<p><b>Preventive Health Outreach and Screening</b>  Service Number: 816 Children  There are approximately 11,736 Children under age 6 in the region. Of these, an estimated 15% (1,740) are uninsured.</p> <p><b>Child Care Health Consultation</b>  Service Number: 30 Centers</p> <p><b>Infant and Toddler Mental Health Professional Tuition Reimbursement</b>  Service Number: 10</p> <p><b>TOTAL: \$542,460 (13%)</b></p>
<b>Professional Development System</b> Convene partners, provide leadership and provide funding for the	Community-Based Training  T.E.A.C.H.	Almost all key informants interviewed noted a lack of available trainings to learn more about child development, child care, and child welfare issues.	<b>Community-Based Training</b> Service Number: 200 Professionals

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development and enhancement of an early childhood professional development system that addresses availability, accessibility, affordability, quality and articulation.		Trainings that interviewees were aware of often took place in Phoenix, or less frequently in Bullhead City or Kingman. Almost all key informant interviewees cited a desire to attend trainings that would expand their knowledge base on a number of early childhood issues.	<b>T.E.A.C.H.</b> Service Number: 20 Scholars  <b>TOTAL: \$533,630 (13%)</b>
<b>Building Public Awareness</b> Convene partners, provide leadership and provide funding for efforts to increase public awareness of and support for early childhood development, health, and early education among partners, public officials, policy makers and the public.	Communications Campaign  Community Outreach Liaison	Very limited knowledge of First Things First and the importance of early childhood in both La Paz and Mohave counties. From the hundreds of interviews (and especially among parents) only a handful had ever heard of First Things First.  Across all three sub-regions (La Paz County, Mohave County and the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe), key informants and parents cite a lack of awareness of existing programs by parents. Several cited that even when resources do exist, few are aware of them, nor how to access them.	<b>Communications Campaign</b>  <b>Community Outreach Liaison</b> Service Number: 6,380 Champions  <b>TOTAL: \$262, 682 (6%)</b>
			<b>TOTAL: \$4,245,665 (100%)</b>

**For each of the priorities, ask the following questions:**

- Does this strategy/combination of strategies have sufficient scope? Are we reaching the NUMBER of recipients needed to make a positive change?
- Does this strategy/combination of strategies have sufficient breadth? Do we have all of the components within the strategy to make an impact?
- Is there sufficient capacity in the region to successfully implement this strategy? If not, what steps are needed?
- Are there coordination/collaboration efforts needed – across strategy areas and/or across Regional Partnership Council areas?